

## Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NASA-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /124 W

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P R 071749Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3167

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 09088

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, ESRO, UK

SUBJECT: SPACELAB AGREEMENT SIGNING

REF: STATE 153581

1. WE DISCUSSED SPACELAB AGREEMENT SIGNING ARRANGEMENTS WITH BURTON, FCO, ON AUGUST 7. BURTON SAID UK COULD BE IN A POSITION TO SIGN SPACELAB AGREEMENT WHEN IT OPENS FOR SIGNATURE AUGUST 14 OR 15 BUT THAT THERE WERE A COUPLE OF MINOR DRAFTING CHANGES IT WISHES TO MAKE IN TEXT OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT. BURTON DID NOT HAVE DETAILS OF PROPOSED CHANGES BUT HE ASSURED EMBOFF THEY WERE VERY MINOR IN NATURE AND SHOULD POSE NO PROBLEM. HE PROMISED TO MAKE PROPOSED CHANGES AVAILABLE TO US BY AUGUST 8 AND WE WILL TRANSMIT AS SOON AS RECEIVED.

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2. WE DISCOVERED ANOTHER HOOKER IN BRITISH POSITION. BURTON SAID IN ADDITION TO RESERVATIONS CONCERNING ATTAINMENT OF AGREED FUNDING LEVELS FOR THREE NEW SPACE PROGRAMS (SPACELAB, MAROTS, AND L3S), UK WILL INSIST UPON MAKING INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT SUBJECT TO RESERVATION THAT EUROPEANS ALSO REACH AGREEMENT ON TEXT OF DOCUMENT SETTING UP EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY. BURTON SAID INsofar AS BRITISH ARE CONCERNED, AGREEMENT ON ESA IS A KEY ELEMENT IN SPACE PACKAGE WORKED OUT AT JULY 31 ESC MEETING. AT MEETING, AEROSPACE MINISTERS REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF ESA BUT TIME DID NOT PERMIT FOCUSsing ON DETAILS OF NEW AGENCY. UK INTENDS TO NAIL DOWN THOSE DETAILS AS A CONDITION PRECEDENT FOR CONFIRMATION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT. EMBOFF ARGUED UK WAS INJECTING COMPLICATING AND POSSIBLY TIME-CONSUMING FACTOR IN ALREADY COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT INTERGOVERNMENTAL ARRANGEMENT. BURTON INSISTED UK POSITION ON THIS WAS FIRM BUT INDICATED BROAD TERMS OF ESA GENERALLY ACCEPTED BY EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS AND NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH SPECIFICS ARE ANTICIPATED. BURTON PROMISED KEEP US INFORMED ON EFFORTS WORK OUT THESE DETAILS.

3. BURTON WAS AWARE OF US-PROPOSED LANGUAGE DEALING WITH RESERVATIONS ISSUE (STATE 153654), AND HE NOTED IT DID NOT DEAL WITH ESA RESERVATION DESCRIBED ABOVE. IN ADDITION, HE SAID HE DID NOT THINK US STATEMENT RECOGNIZING THAT AGREEMENT IS SUBJECT TO CERTAIN RESERVATIONS OF EUROPEAN PARTNERS IS SATISFACTORY SUBSTITUTE FOR EUROPEANS ENTERING EXPLICIT RESERVATIONS THEMSELVES.

4. BURTON RAISED QUESTION OF WHAT HAPPENS IN EVENT OF SHORTFALL IN FUNDING COMMITMENTS FOR THREE NEW SPACE PROJECTS AND HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT IF SHORTFALL IS RELATIVELY SMALL ONE, EUROPEANS MIGHT AGREE TO MAKE UP SHORTFALL USING FORMULA BASED ON PREVIOUSLY-AGREED PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF EACH GOVERNMENT TOWARD THE PROJECT EXPERIENCING A SHORTFALL.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPACE AGREEMENTS, SPACE PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** worrelsw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LONDON09088  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS SOHM  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION SCI  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 STATE 153581  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** worrelsw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <16-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SPACELAB AGREEMENT SIGNING  
**TAGS:** TSPA, UK, ESRO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005